

WILL THIRD WAR DISSIPATE FORTUNE OF ROTHSCHILDS?



LIONEL ROTHSCHILD
HEAD OF THE ENGLISH HOUSE



Death of Richest Man in the World Raises Question of Ability of the Family Whose Billions Were Made in Two Great Wars to Weather This Greatest Conflict.

LORD ROTHSCHILD is dead. The richest man in the world, the head of the richest family in the world, is no more. And by a strange freak of Fate it was war, which had always been so kind to his family and made it what it was, which killed him.

Of all the strange things that have happened in the last nine months none has been stranger than this. Hitherto the Rothschilds have waxed fat, happy, rich and powerful on wars. The war that Napoleon waged against Prussia resulted in the founding of their fortune. The war that Napoleon waged against the allies and lost in the battle of Waterloo so multiplied the Rothschild fortune that they were not only made the richest family in the world, but were placed entirely on a plane by themselves in the matter of countless wealth.

And now the third war comes and takes the wealthiest member and the head of the Rothschild house. But it did not take him until it had lessened to an appreciable degree the fortune which the two other wars had capriciously built up and had caused him untold worry over the outlook. For never in the history of the world has there been waged a war which has been so disastrous economically.

The allies have stopped absolutely Germany's trade with the outside world. Germany holds by far the greatest and richest commercial and mineral districts of France and Russia and as a result has paralyzed business in both countries. The submarine blockade of the English coast has almost throttled English commerce. The world's business has practically ceased.

As the Rothschild fortune is invested in the industrial stocks and bonds of the allied countries, this before all others has felt the almost complete stoppage of the wheels of industry. Their great fortune is diminishing daily. If the Germans win the war the Rothschilds will still be wealthy, but their position as the richest family in the world and the most powerful will be a thing of the past. That Lord Nathaniel Rothschild knew this and that the worry over it led to his death there is no one to deny. This is war, therefore, suddenly and unreasonably to take what it so lavishly and unreasonably gave.

Nathaniel's life was worth between one and two billion dollars, traced a direct pedigree to Mayer Anselm and his wife, Letitia, the founders of the family. Letitia lived to be a hundred years old — almost long enough to see her five sons and her five daughters grown into a splendid manhood and womanhood and to raise five families of their own.

Mayer Anselm was an obscure banker who lived in the ghetto of Frankfurt during Napoleon's time. When Napoleon invaded Prussia William the Elector turned all his money over to Mayer for safe keeping. That was in the days when the Rothschilds lived in the little house of the Red Shield, or "Rothschild."

Napoleon came marching by and William the Elector went into hiding for four years until Napoleon suddenly issued a royal decree of political pardon. When William left his place of concealment and entered Frankfurt the people gave him a joyous welcome. The first thing he did was the most natural thing to do. He went to the elderly Mayer Anselm to inquire what Napoleon had done with his money. The old Jewish banker received him with quiet courtesy and dignity.

"Napoleon did nothing with it," he said.

"What do you mean?" cried William. "Did he not seize it and take it back with him? Do not be afraid to tell me the truth. It was not your fault if the French seized it. All I wish from you is a small loan so that I can begin things over again."

"I am sorry," said the banker, more quietly and seriously than ever, "but I have not a cent to loan anyone. I have no funds of my own to give out."

And then the aged, dignified banker went on to tell William the Elector that his funds were intact and safely placed in London.

"The best I can do for you," he con-

tinued, "is to give you exchange on London. I have been waiting for you for a long time, and often I thought you were dead. I would have told your heirs of the funds I had, except that I felt you would come back to your city some day. The principal and interest at 5 per cent now amount to about 2,000,000 thalers. My son Nathan in London has been instructed to give you the money when you present your check."

William the Elector could not believe his ears. He gasped and hung to his chair with both hands. Mayer Anselm's wife gave him tea to revive him. When he had recovered he declared that he would never touch the principal. He said he had no need for it, and, taking 5 per cent interest, gave the remainder of his fortune outright to his honest banker.

In 1812 Mayer Anselm died, after having by judicious investments increased several times the fortune that had been left him. To Nathan Rothschild, his son, went most of the fortune, and to him came the opportunity for the brilliant financial stroke which placed the Rothschilds in a financial class by themselves.

This second stroke of fortune happened in 1815. Napoleon had escaped from Elba and was making his way up through northern France, a conquering hero. His old army men were flocking to his newly-raised standards by thousands, and it looked as if the great warrior was about to repeat his victorious campaigns of former years.

All over the world people were hoarding their money in fears of the chaos that seemed about to come over the world. England was vainly trying to raise money to strengthen her defenses. Her bonds had dropped far down to fifty and a new loan at 7 per cent brought no subscribers.

Nathan, with the fortune that had grown out of William the Elector's money, laid very careful plans to take advantage of the situation.

"This time," he told his cashier, "Napoleon will triumph completely or lose everything. I am going to the continent to watch affairs. If Napoleon goes down I shall send addressed to myself a blank sheet of paper in an envelope. As soon as you receive it buy as quickly as you can all the government bonds that we have money for. Buy them in the name of a dozen different persons, so you will not create a stampede. We have \$5,000,000 in our treasury and I want you to invest every cent of it."

He started on his journey astride a horse. He posted a man with a strong, fast horse every fifteen miles between London and Dover. At Calais he placed the swiftest yacht he could purchase to make the trip between Calais and Dover.

Through influential officers in the English army he was able to watch the battle of Waterloo from behind the English lines. He watched the famous cavalry charge of the French and saw the thousands of French horsemen precipitate themselves into the ditch which the English had dug for them at St. Omer.

He saw the arrival of Blucher with his Prussian reinforcements and he knew the battle had been won. While there were many high English officers



NATHAN MEYER ROTHSCHILD
FOUNDER OF THE LONDON BRANCH OF THE FAMILY

who were ready to believe that Napoleon had not been conquered and feared that he would return with reinforcements on the next day, Nathan Rothschild guessed otherwise—and correctly.

At nightfall he mounted his horse and rode nearly 100 miles in ten hours. His fast couriers and yacht brought his letter with a plain slip of paper within it to his cashier twenty-four hours ahead of the regular post.

When the news reached London that Napoleon had been defeated there was not a cent of cash in the vaults of the house of Rothschild. English bonds filled them from floor to ceiling. When Nathan Rothschild, taking his own sweet time about returning to London, arrived there he found that he was almost \$3,000,000 richer than when he left.

The fortune has grown by leaps and bounds from year to year through the

able to coerce Russia when the Jew-baiting was in its height.

By withdrawing an enormous sum of gold from America they produced a financial panic which caused the American minister in London to lower his horns in the squabble between this country and England over Venezuela. Lord Rothschild was the head of the English branch of the family and was also the leader of the English Jews. His financial services to England were rewarded by a peerage, the first given



LORD ROTHSCHILD
The Late Head of the English House.

WADDESDON MANOR, NEAR
AYLESBURY, FORMERLY THE
HOME OF THE LATE BARON
FERDINAND ROTHSCHILD.



ALFRED, CHARLES, The Late BARON, BARON ALPHONSE
ROTHSCHILD, FERDINAND ROTHSCHILD, DE ROTHSCHILD.

veritable genius for making money which the Rothschilds seem to possess. It has made them the richest family in the world and given them in many cases greater power than kings and emperors possess. The secret of their power is that it lies in their union. United, the various branches of the family were to a Jew. His gifts to charity and public purposes, both for his people and his country, have been so enormous and continuous that they alone would have entitled him to that reward.

In private life he was the most unassuming and quiet of men. Until the day of his death he worked hard, travel-

ing to London daily from his little country place near the metropolis. At his country station the railway officials treated him like a prince, although he much preferred to slip into the train with his black bag without any fuss.

The casual stranger never dreamed that he was the great financier, and there is a story that a new porter who did not know him treated him with scant ceremony under the impression derived from the bag that he was a lawyer's clerk. On one occasion a Gentle who was dining with the Rothschilds had the bad taste to remark that someone was a "regular Jew" in an un-

complimentary sense. "In this house," said Lord Rothschild, very decidedly down the length of the table, "the word 'Jew' is a title of honor."

The favorite hobby of Lord Rothschild was the Jews' free school in London, to which he contributed largely. Whenever he and his wife entertained the elite of London society always came to the feast and the display of wealth was always most lavish. Queen Victoria had a very high opinion of the couple, and they showed their respect and their sorrow at her death by draping the front of their huge London house from top to bottom in purple and black.

This same house was built by Lord Rothschild's father on a piece of ground which cost a fortune. A larger fortune was spent on the building and furnishings. The house is filled with the rarest of art treasures. It has a huge marble hall with a magnificent double staircase protected by metal banisters which ascend to a wide gallery which goes around the hall. A small portion of the cornice of this hall remains unfinished and will always be so in accordance with a Jewish custom.

The walls and staircase are of dazzling white, relieved by piers and pediments of glowing crimson. The finest of the reception rooms looks out on the garden. The rooms go all around the house en suite, and so solidly are the walls built that the music in the ballroom can hardly be heard in the rooms on the further side of the hall. Lord Rothschild was the first to introduce the idea of erecting a protection in his drive where the servants waiting for their employers might find shelter and get hot coffee. A large entertainment by the Rothschilds always created such a block in Piccadilly that extra police were required to deal with it.

His country house at Tring, near London, is a handsome, spacious old house in the Italian style of time-darkened brick and white stone. It was erected by Charles II for Neil Gwyn and was bought by its late owner nearly thirty years ago.

Within it is a perfect treasure house of curiosities brought from all parts of the art world. The park is unique, for it is filled with kangaroos, cassowaries, deer, ostriches, rheas and a gigantic tortoise. This introduction of strange birds and beasts is the work of Walter Rothschild, the heir of the late lord, who also built, endowed and stocked the natural history museum which stands at the park gates. The latter is especially rich in strange birds, which are Rothschild's hobby. He is also a trustee of the British museum.

He is only in his early forties, but looks older, principally because of the "brained" look of his forehead. He accompanied his father regularly from their country home to London. Another of his hobbies is the perfecting of the English system of eucamary or militia. Alfred de Rothschild, a brother of the late lord, is in many respects an Admirable Crichton. He is a favorite of royalty, a skilled connoisseur in all matters artistic, a staunch supporter of the drama and the opera, a charming host, a gallant cavalier to the fair sex, a brilliant conversationalist and a remarkable financier. He is a baron, but prefers the title "Mr."

The younger brother, Leopold de Rothschild, unites to all the qualities Alfred possesses a keen love for sport, for horses, hounds and the turf. He is married to an Austrian lady of great beauty, and the two are seen regularly at the opera. They also, like all the Rothschilds, entertain largely and splendidly.

Using Rubber to Replace Human Tissues Makes Artificial Man With All Senses 20th Century Reality

THE living india rubber man, with the faculty of speech, with the five senses and all human emotions, is now a twentieth century reality, made possible by such master scientists as Drs. Carrel, Tuffier, Delbet and Sullivan.

All have seen the wonderful rubber man of the circus sideshow, who did astounding tricks with his elastic skin; but the real scientific product far exceeds him as a marvel, for his "rubberization" has to do with the preservation and the prolongation of life and health.

Amazing but nevertheless true, modern man may have many of his tissues replaced with rubber and still perform all of his organic functions. Probably it would be too much to expect a man to live with a rubber heart and lungs, but rubber blood vessels and rubber intestines have been shown to be practicable to a certain extent.

Rubber is especially adapted to this sort of substitution, since it is a colloid, like the substance of the human tissues which place it may be called upon to take.

To replace losses of tissues or organs there are two surgical methods, the

grafting of living tissue—cartilage, bone or fat—and the introduction of an inert piece of metal or some other substance.

In this latter method, when the replacement is introduced into the midst of the tissues—it is necessary that it should be aseptic; if there are microbial infection and suppuration, the foreign body is infallibly contaminated little by little. It is also useful that the foreign body should be endowed with certain qualities—physical, mechanical and chemical. Among utilizable metals silver, platinum, gold, aluminum and copper give good results, but silver is tolerated best, and it has been observed that conjunctive tissue adheres well to its surface. Other inert substances that are well received by the living tissues are paraffin and india rubber.

The blood is one of the most alterable substances of the organism and will hardly bear contact of any kind, except that of the interior surface of veins and arteries, without coagulating; yet there are two substances in contact with which coagulation takes place only with extreme slowness—paraffin and caoutchouc. In the case of paraffin its harmlessness depends upon the chemical inertness indicated by its name, ca-

outchouc—having slight affinity. As for caoutchouc, it owes the quality doubtless to its colloidal nature, which assimilates it chemically to the colloids of which the living organism is composed.

At any rate, Dr. Sullivan, an American, performed the experiment of replacing with a rubber tube the biliary ducts of a dog between the hepatic canal and the duodenum. Since this time Drs. Wilms and Brewer have used this process in man, in a case of destruction of the bile-duct, and with apparent success; but others have not succeeded, which is easily understood, since the foreign body, not being protected from microbial infection, must have been eliminated with fatal results.

Drs. Tuffier and Carrel, having removed in a dog a piece of the wall of the abdominal aorta measuring about one by one and one-half inches, replaced it by a thin sheet of rubber carefully sutured, and fifteen months later it was proved that this had held perfectly and that living tissues had covered both faces of the rubber sheet.

Dr. Delbet, of Paris, reports two rubber grafts made by him. In the first an extensor tendon had adhered to a phalanx; Dr. Delbet placed a thin sheet of rubber between the bone and the ten-

don, which thus recovered its functions and retained them for eight months. Another time a thick sheet of rubber served to repair a torn abdominal wall of a patient afflicted with hernia.

The Gazette des Hopitaux, of Paris, notes the use of rubber in another form—that of nouva carne, or "new flesh," so called by the Italian surgeon Fieschi. Incorporating with the tissues that porous rubber called "rubber sponges," Fieschi depended on the "sympathy" between the two elements to effect their fusion by penetration of the living element into the cavities of the inert substance, thus building new tissue.

Experiment, and afterward clinical results, proved the exactitude of this conception. Sterilized bits of rubber sponge introduced into the peritoneal cavity or placed between the muscles of dogs or rabbits, were enveloped and penetrated by "granulated tissues," without any injurious reaction.

In two operations for hernia of the thigh the closing of the aperture was brought about, simply and very effectively, by a tampon of this same kind of rubber. After a year's time the patients were still in good condition and the tampons had not changed place, as was shown by X-ray photographs.